2. Provision of soft loans for setting up of grading/processing centrres, auction platforms; ripening, curing, chambers and quality testing equipment.

3. Providing financial assistance to exporters/growers/Cooperative Societies for development of infrastructural facilities such as purchase of specialised transport units, establishment of pre-cooling/cold shorage facilities, intergrated post-harvest handling systems (pack houses).

4. Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging strengthening of quality control.

5. Estasblishment of vapour heat treatment facilities for improving the acceptability of the product especially the mangoes in overseas markets.

6. Grant of Air Freight Subsidy for exports of selected fresh vegetables and fruits.

7. Arranging promotional campaigns such as buyers-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions.

8. Setting up of integreated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various international Airports for handling export of perishable items such as fresh fruits and vegetables.

9. Setting up of laboratories for testing of products to ensure quality, tochnology transfer process upgradation and product development.

10. Providing assistance in development of data base and dissemination of market information.

प्याज का आयात

813. **श्री रमा शंकर कौशिक:**
प्रो० रामगोपाल यादव:

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दुबई से समुद्र के रास्ते आयातित प्याज की कोई खेप पहुंची है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितना टन प्याज आया और उक्त प्याज किस कम्पनी की मार्फत मंगाया गया था;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि उक्त प्याज मुम्बई गोदी पर सड़ गया है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण है और इस कार्य के लिए सरकार द्वारा किन-किन लोगों को जिम्मेदार ठहराया गया है और उनके खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाई की गई है; और

(ङ) सरकार द्वारा आयातित प्याज के लिए धन के भुगतान हेतु अपनाए जाने वाले तरीके का ब्यौरा क्या है?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री रामकृष्ण हेगड़े): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) दुबई से विभिन्न आयातकों द्वारा समुद्री मार्ग से 5900.37 मी० टन प्याज का आयात किया गया है जिसमें रजति एजेंसीज और मैसर्स शिव राम इन्टरप्राइजेज शामिल हैं।

(ग) मुंबई बन्दरगाह स्थित बन्दरगाह स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकारियों द्वारा लगभग 69 मी० टन प्याज को मानव उपभोग के लिए अनुपयुक्त पाया गया था।

(घ) प्याज सड़ जाने के सही-सही कारण का पता नहीं चल पाया है और यह भी सिद्ध नहीं हो पाया है कि क्या यह प्याज आयात के समय ही खराब हालत में था अथवा बाद में खराब हुआ था। तथापि, सीमाशुल्क विभाग द्वारा कागजी कारवाई को पूरा करने में कोई देरी नहीं हुई थी और इसलिए सीमाशुल्क विभाग के किसी अधिकारी को इस कार्गो को हुए किसी नुकसान के लिए जिम्मेवार नहीं ठहराया गया था।

(ङ) ऐसे आयातों के लिए सामान्य भुगतान-विधि अर्थात मुक्त रूप से परिवर्तनीय मुद्रा भुगतान, अपनाई जाएगी।

Signing of Trade Treaties

814. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the countries with whom Government have signed trade treaties uptill now alongwith the areas thereof;

(b) the details of the items likely to be exported/imported under these treaties; and

(c) the period by which these treaties would last?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (c) A Statement is annexed.

[*See* Appendix 185 Annexure No. 22]

(b) Actual trade depends on commercial considerations. The treaties generally aim to facilitate trade links between the concerned countries.

Export of Sugar

815. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAL VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of our neighbouring countries have complained that the export of sugar from our country is being delayed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken to avoid the delay and expedite the process of export since the sugar industry is suffering from the glut in sugar production;

(d) whether Government have reduced the import duty to the bare minimum which ultimately affects our sugar industry; and

(e) whether Government would come forward to stop further import of sugar and enhance the import duty of sugar so as to safeguard our industry as well as our labourers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Dumping of HR Coils

816. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large quantity of HR Coil/Sheets/Plates and certain other varieties of Steel have been dumped by some countries like Russia, Ukrain, Kazakhastan etc. which had adversely affected our domestic industry and if so, the details thereof and the extent of loss suffered by our Industry as a result thereof; and

(b) whether Government have since imposed anti-dumping duty thereon and if so, the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) A petition was filed before the Designated Authority appointed under the Customs Tariff act and the Rules made thereunder alleging dumping of Hot Rolled Coils/Sheets/Plates/Strips. The Designated Authority conducted an investigation and confirmed that:

(i) Hot rolled coils, plates, sheets, and strips originating in or exported from Russia, Kazakhstan and Ukraine have been exported to India below their normal value, except for hot rolled coils originating in Kazakhstan, resulting in dumping.

(ii) The domestic industry has suffered material injury.

(iii) the injury has been caused to the domestic industry by the exports of the subject goods origination in or exported from the subject countries.

The Designated Authority recommended imposition of definitive anti-dumping duties. The anti-dumping duty recommended are the difference between amount mentioned in column 3 below and the landed price of imports per MT, subject to a minimum of Rs. 481 per MT.